

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-18 remain in the application. Claims 1-4 have been amended. Claims 13-18 have been allowed.

In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102" on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claims 1-5 and 11 have been rejected as being anticipated by Grützmacher et al. (US Pat. No. 5,481,971) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103" on pages 2-3 of the above-identified Office action, claims 6 and 7 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Grützmacher et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The rejections have been noted and claims 1-4 have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. The added feature that the compensation elements are capable of moving a sheet on a cylinder is a broader description of the specific embodiment than that recited in claim 8, which was held to contain allowable subject matter.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 calls for, inter alia:

compensation elements for compensating for speed differences and positional errors between two printing unit groups, said compensation elements being assigned to a printing unit group being an accepting printing unit group, in order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation elements being capable of changing a position of a sheet on a cylinder. (Emphasis added.)

Claims 2 and 3 call for, inter alia:

compensation elements for compensating for speed differences and positional errors between two printing unit groups, said compensation elements being assigned to a first transfer cylinder of a printing unit group being an accepting printing unit group, in order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation elements being capable of changing a position of a sheet on said first transfer cylinder. (Emphasis added.)

Claim 4 calls for, inter alia:

compensation elements for compensating for speed differences and positional errors between two printing unit groups, said compensation elements being assigned to a printing unit group being an accepting printing unit group, in order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation elements being capable of changing a position of the sheet on a cylinder. (Emphasis added.)

Grützmacher et al. do not teach the possibility to move a sheet on a cylinder. According to the invention of the instant application, the compensation elements for moving a sheet on a cylinder offer the opportunity of correcting a sheet on an accepting printing unit without the need to adjust an upstream printing unit.

Clearly, Grützmacher et al. do not show compensation elements for moving a sheet on a cylinder, as recited in claims 1-4 of

the instant application. Claims 1-4 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over Grützmacher et al. and since claims 5-7 and 11 are ultimately dependent on claim 4, they are believed to be patentable as well.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement in the section entitled "Allowable Subject Matter" on page 4 of the above-mentioned Office action that claims 8-10 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Since claim 4 is believed to be patentable as discussed above and claims 8-10 and 12 are ultimately dependent on claim 4, they are believed to be patentable in dependent form. A rewrite is therefore believed to be unnecessary at this time.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's statement on the "Office Action Summary" page that claims 13-18 are allowed.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-12 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out. In the alternative, the entry of the amendment is requested as

it is believed to place the application in better condition for appeal, without requiring extension of the field of search.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

  
For Applicants

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Marked-Up Version of the Amended Claims:

Claim 1(amended). A printing machine, [which includes]  
comprising:

at least two printing unit groups having drives [which are]  
decoupled from one another and assigned, respectively, to one  
printing unit group, and having printing units with transfer  
cylinders[, comprising]; and

compensation elements for compensating for speed differences  
and positional errors between two printing unit groups, [the]  
said compensation elements being assigned to a printing unit  
group [which is] being an accepting printing unit group, in  
order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation  
elements being capable of changing a position of a sheet on a  
cylinder.

Claim 2(amended). A printing machine, [which includes]  
comprising:

at least two printing unit groups having drives [which are]  
decoupled from one another and assigned, respectively, to one  
printing unit group, and having printing units with transfer  
cylinders [, comprising]; and

compensation elements for compensating for speed differences and positional errors between two printing unit groups, [the] said compensation elements being assigned to a first transfer cylinder of a printing unit group [which is] being an accepting printing unit group, in order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation elements being capable of changing a position of a sheet on said first transfer cylinder.

Claim 3 (amended). A printing machine for printing sheet material, [which includes] the printing machine comprising:

at least two printing unit groups having drives [which are] decoupled from one another and assigned, respectively, to one printing unit group, and having printing units with transfer cylinders[, comprising];

[for transferring the printed sheets,] a dynamic control device for transferring the printed sheets; and

compensation elements for compensating for speed differences and positional errors between two printing unit groups, the compensation elements being assigned to a first transfer cylinder of a printing unit group [which is] being an accepting printing unit group, in order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation elements being capable of

changing a position of the sheet on said first transfer cylinder.

Claim 4 (amended). A printing machine for printing sheet-type material, [which includes] the printing machine comprising:

at least two printing unit groups having drives [which are] decoupled from one another and assigned, respectively, to one printing unit group, and having printing units with transfer cylinders[, which comprise,];

[for transferring the printed sheets,] a dynamic control device for transferring the printed sheets; and

compensation elements for compensating for speed differences and positional errors between two printing unit groups, [the] said compensation elements being assigned to a printing unit group [which is] being an accepting printing unit group, in order to compensate for transfer errors, said compensation elements being capable of changing a position of the sheet on a cylinder.